

Mike and His Job

By GEORGE MUNSON

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At six o'clock Mike Donahue's alarm clock went off with bang and Mike arose, dressed, and had his coffee, and took the lunch which Nora put up for him to the mill. He entered as the whistle blew, and worked there, except for the lunch hour, till the whistle dismissed him at six.

That was Mike's life, with the exception of Sunday, when he got up to help his wife with the washing of dishes, and then went back to bed again. He lay in bed all day, reading the Sunday paper. He finished it by night, had supper, and went to sleep till Monday.

In appearance he was a clean old man of sixty. He had once had those ambitions which are supposed to be the birthright of every American, but he had lost those when Ellery died.

Ellery had been the founder of the mill. It was Mike Donahue who, in those early days, soon after the Civil war, came from Belfast with the new flax-weaving process, not then in use in the United States, and interested Ellery. He could have had a partnership, but he was too simple and ignorant to understand that, and Ellery was not above turning the advantage when the opportunity was so patent. Mike had come to him and said:

"Mr. Ellery, I don't know how much this process is worth to you, but if it's worth what it ought to be I'd look for a job in the mill for the rest of my days."

Mike had just married Nora Brady, and the thought of unemployment haunted him. Besides, there was a baby coming. If he could secure a life position—well, what more could any man hope for?

He could save a dollar a week even at the start, and Ellery would certainly advance him. And this was done.



Confronted Jim Ellery With a Pistol.

Mike became foreman at twenty-five a week, and he and Nora and little Kathleen lived quite comfortably.

Times changed. The mill prospered. Ellery became a very rich man indeed. The sight of Mike, and the knowledge of the unfair advantage that he had taken, haunted old Ellery. His only son, who would inherit the mill, was a worthless scamp. The thought that it should have been half Mike's, that his own son had gone to college on what he had squeezed out of the old man, was gall to him. He offered Mike five thousand dollars—the utmost that his avarice would permit—if he would leave.

Mike Donahue proved amazingly obstinate. He liked the work, he loved the old mill, he would not know what to do with himself if he left. He refused the offer—and then Ellery died.

Jim Ellery's first act was to discharge the old employee. When Mike, furious, confronted him with the agreement, he took him back as a hand. Mike worked on at twelve dollars weekly.

Jim had his own reasons for wanting to get rid of Mike. They developed about three months later, when Jim Ellery married Kathleen, who had been educated with the last penny of her father's savings. She had the airs and manners of a lady. She was in no way inferior to him.

No sooner was Kathleen married than she dropped her parents. The final interview was memorable. Mike and Nora were in tears. Kathleen, in her new ball gown, shifted herself uneasily from one satin shoe to the other.

"Won't you never come and see us, then, Kitty?" asked Mike, unable to realize the impending tragedy.

"You are acting unfairly, father," answered the girl. "I owe a duty to my husband and to myself. If we let it be known that my father works in the mill, and is an ignorant, illiterate old man, I shall have no social standing in the town at all. At present they don't know. And if you have any affection for me—"

"Sure, you're the only one I ever bore!" wailed Nora. "What'll we do now we're old?"

"If father likes to leave the mill and settle somewhere quietly in the country, not less than a hundred miles distant, my husband will pay him fifteen dollars a week for life."

"I'll see you in 'n in the mill first, Kathleen," answered old Mike.

"You won't leave the mill? You insist on working here for ten dollars a week to spite me?"

"Easy, easy, my girl! This is my job, and I'm not going to leave it to take that scamp's money."

"James is not a scamp!"

"And it seems to me, Nora, darling, that if our own girl is that bad, why we've got to make up our minds to lose her," said Mike to his wife.

Kathleen took herself, satin slippers and all, out of the cottage. Her

heart was bursting with shame and also with self-condemnation. But was she to be tied forever to that old, ignorant laborer and his wife—she with expensive tastes?

The town was just large enough for her story not to be widely known. It was steering her way cautiously, and inventing a tale about an old couple whom she had befriended, she managed to shake her skirts clean of her parents. Her husband, in his rage, threatened to put Mike out of his job; but the stubborn old man threatened to sue, and that would mean wide publicity. So Mike remained.

This went on for years after Kathleen's marriage. He had never heard of her. He had seen her once, riding in her car. She was gowned like a princess and splendidly bejeweled.

Then a lawyer came to see Mike. There had been rumors for some time of extravagance in the management of the mill; it was thought things were not going well. But everyone knew Jim Ellery had no business head. Mike should have been manager, if his father had been an honest man—Mike, who, working as a laborer, nevertheless knew the complicated process from the foundations up. Mike could have told Jim Ellery what was wrong, why the cheap flax was unable to take the mill. But Mike was only a laborer, remember.

The lawyer came on a Sunday, and Mike got out of bed to receive him, apologizing for his flowered dressing-gown, which Nora had made for him the last Christmas.

The lawyer waved his apologies aside.

"Listen to me carefully, Mr. Donahue," he said. "You should by right have had better treatment from Mr. Ellery than you had."

"I don't know," said Mike, stubbornly loyal to the memory of the Ellery he had once known and loved.

"He kept his word by me,"

"He repented on his deathbed," said the lawyer. "He left you a half share in the mill and made you manager for life. That will be suppressed by Mr. James Ellery. He is at your mercy now, for all has come to light. I represent an interest which wants to buy the mill and give publicity to the affair."

"Yes, sir," said Mike.

"A warrant can be sworn out for Mr. Ellery's arrest. We can get an injunction tying up the money—"

"What for would you be tying up the money?" demanded Mike.

The lawyer started to explain all over again. Mike listened patiently.

"Well, you see," he explained, "my daughter's married to him. So it wouldn't do to bring her into disgrace, would it?"

"But she has neglected you," said the lawyer. "It is a scandal. And the mill is half yours. We want to buy your interest. It is worth four hundred thousand dollars at least. And you will have the position of manager—"

"Well, you see," said Mike, "I have a life job here. And a manager is sort of uncertain. And then, what would we be doing with four hundred thousand dollars at our age? No, mister, nobody's going to jockey me out of my job. I earn my ten, and I'll go on earning it till I die. And say! If there's any trouble about Jim, just remember that he's a good boy, and I stand by him to the last penny of my four hundred thousand. Remember that, will you?"

It was Ellery's lawyer who came next. He came humbly, to beg Mike to consent to an agreement whereby he could wriggle out of his liabilities and escape the charge of fraud. Mike signed the papers without looking particularly. He only assured himself that his job was not being taken away from him.

"You see," he explained to the lawyer, who had the grace to look ashamed, "now that there's only the wife to take care of, I guess my ten a week will provide for us—won't it, Nora, girl?"

And all his anger against his daughter died. It was his money, after all, that was buying her those gowns, had bought the car, was providing for her every minute.

If he had pressed Ellery he would have been a rich man, but life would have been utterly empty for him. Because he relinquished all, he gained all. For the day came when his daughter knelt before him and Nora, imploring for forgiveness.

"All that we have is yours," she said. "Forgive us! Jim wants you to live with us, and—and you can keep your job if you want to, and—and when baby comes we're going to name him Michael, or Nora, if it's a girl. Won't you come, father? mother?"

"Sure and I'll come," said Mike, clapping on his hat, to find vent for his emotions. "But I keep the job, Kathleen!"

Circumstances Alter Cases.

Pat Cassidy purchased a new automobile, and while still inexperienced in the handling of it he drove down one of the crowded thoroughfares of the city. Coming to a crossing where traffic was held up, he lost control of the car and ran squarely into a handsome limousine. The crowd which gathered found the situation amusing, and to add to Pat's discomfort, the crossing policeman, a big Irishman, commenced to berate him.

"Since when did you learn to drive a car?" demanded the officer. "What's your name?" Cassidy, answered Pat. "So?" said the policeman, interestedly. "And where are you from?"

"County Clare," said Pat. "Say," said the cop, "how the devil did that fellow back into you?"—Chicago Journal.

Anniversaries of Snakebite.

A curious fact, and one not generally known, is the recurring symptom of snakebite on or about the anniversary of a bite. The victim of a snakebite may have these recurring symptoms for ten or twelve years, and there is a case on record where the recurring symptoms lasted for twenty-five years.

Naval and Military Terms.

Most of our military terms are French, and naval terms are Anglo-Saxon.

Queen Ante That Lived Long.

Queen ants have been known to live fifteen years.

Convertible Coat of Sealette



One of the handsome long coats of plush which dealers prefer to call by its new name—"fur-fabric"—is shown in the picture above. It merits the consideration of the woman who wants a coat to serve many occasions, and is entitled to be called "sealette," by which name the manufacturers have christened the fabric used in it. This is a rich, glossy plush of so dark a brown that it might be classed among the various blacks.

The coat is long, nearly covering the dress, and hangs almost straight at the front. It is semitight at the back, but loosely adjusted to the figure. There are wide revers at the front which may be rolled forward when the turnover collar is brought up close about the neck. Large covered buttons, like the material of the coat, are used for fastening at the front—and one is set at each side of the back at the waist line.

The wide collar and deep cuffs of white fur are made separate and fastened to the coat when it is to do duty for evening or dressy afternoon wear. They are not intended for the workaday world of every day, but to convert a very practical coat into a rich-looking garment suited to special occasions. There is nothing

more durable than a coat of this kind in a good quality of the handsome pile fabric used for making it.

With the addition of the white fur collar and cuffs, white gloves and white-and-black shoes are donned, and a smart, dressy hat finishes a toilette quite up to the demands of full dress.

High waist lines are the rule for the little girls' thin dresses. Like grown-up dresses, the skirts of these dresses are very flaring and frilly.

The skirts of tulle and chiffon dresses or those of lingerie, batiste or very thin silk are often finished at the hem with three little ruffles. These are only about three or four inches in width and are not gathered very full. A picot edging is used often instead of lace to finish them, or a very narrow satin ribbon, perhaps in a double lengthwise stripe.

Little puffed sleeves that come only halfway to the elbow are considered very correct, and they go well with the general empire contour of the gown.

In linen dresses the empire waist line has a belt of the same that has a slot inset in the middle of it of another color.

Something New in Neckwear



Something new in neckwear has lately been added to the array of crisp and dainty pieces that came in with the fall season. The new arrivals are made of the same materials but have taken their cue from the high collars of wraps and street gowns, and their foundation is a band, fitting close about the neck, and as wide as it can be worn.

To this band of thin material, wings, tabs, and flaring pieces are added in a variety of shapes and finish that seems unlimited. Fine embroidery on sheer fabrics makes them elegant, but their crisp daintiness is a fragile quality, and hence it is necessary to replace them often, for it is just these qualities that they are expected to lend to the costume. Two good examples of these novelties are pictured here and they serve to show the essential features of all of them.

The design at the left might be made, apparently, from embroidered handkerchiefs. It is merely a fitted band of organdie finished at the edges with small buttonhole-stitched scallops and having a flaring piece of the same kind set on at each side. The surface is decorated with scattered embroidered dots and little flower sprays.

The collar at the right is one of several designs in which a double row of tabs is set on about the top. In each of these designs the upper and under row of tabs are unlike in shape and length. Both are finished with fine embroidery, and the effect of the two thicknesses of sheer material is very dainty.

All of these new collars set up very close about the neck and only a few of them are suited to the short-necked figure. These are those having a wide standing band shaped to approximately the length of the neck, and a flaring portion that extends only about the sides and back. But the girl who cannot wear the wide standing collar may console herself by reflecting on how well she can wear the fashionable evening bodice, which leaves neck and shoulders and arms uncovered.

One should not fail to notice, when considering neckwear, the "choker" of narrow black velvet ribbon, about an inch wide, which is worn so effectively with evening gowns. It is fastened with a little flat bow and a small sparkling jewel in a pin is sometimes set against it.

Julie Bottomley

Braid Embroidery.

A fancy braid is being used a great deal to embellish designs on table runners and cushions. The braid comes in a variety of colors and is used in connection with herringbone, buttonhole, skeleton and many other embroidery stitches. A very good illustration of the effect the braid and various stitches give is noticed on a table runner of natural linen exhibited by an excellent shop. On either end a conventional floral design is stamped. The leaves and stems of

the flowers are covered with the green braid. The petals of the flowers are worked in yellow skeleton stitches, while the centers of the flowers are filled in with brown French knots.—Boston Herald.

Discouraging.

The woman who marries a man to reform him must be discouraged to see how much work one small specimen requires when an evangelist can arise and have them biting the trail by the hundreds.

AERO-AMERICAN CULLINGS

Because of a late ruling of the county clerk in which the owner of an oil lease is forced to turn over to the lessee the royalty oil instead of its equivalent, Sarah Rector, the richest Negro girl in Oklahoma, and probably in all the world, now is receiving in royalty \$2,000 more a month than formerly.

Six hundred dollars a day was her income from one of the most valuable oil land allotments in the entire Oklahoma district. Her tract of land, which is operated by H. B. Jones, millionaire oil man, is now producing in the neighborhood of 150,000 barrels of crude oil a month. For her share, one-eighth, or 20,000 barrels a month, she was getting 90 cents a barrel, or a total of \$18,000 a month, giving her a daily income from her oil royalties of \$600.

An additional ten cents a barrel premium for her oil was obtained through a decision by Federal Judge Campbell of Muskogee, holding that an oil company operating a tract of land must pay the royalty in oil instead of money if the landowner demands it. The market price for oil is 80 cents, but a premium is being offered for oil as the demand is now greater than the supply. By demanding the payment of the royalty in oil Sarah Rector has sold her oil to the Pierce Oil corporation for 90 cents a barrel, or an increase of \$2,000 a month, or \$66 a day. The deal was made for her through her guardian, T. J. Porter.

The Sarah Rector allotment has always been a good revenue producer. It has been producing oil for about two years. She has received from her land in royalty approximately \$69,000 in cash up to May 1 of this year, and on that date her royalty oil that had accumulated during the previous four months was said at the time market price, 40 cents a barrel, netting her an additional \$65,000, or a total of \$134,000.

The sale at that time was made to B. B. Jones, the operator of the land, and the contract was continued in force to sell the royalty oil as it accumulated subject to termination at ten days' notice.

The Sarah Rector land reached its high tide in production during the spring of this year. It was estimated to be making 20,000 barrels a day during April or 600,000 barrels for the month, of which the little girl's share was 75,000 barrels. For February the Rector production from the deep sand or Bartlesville was 300,000 barrels, and for March it was 325,000 barrels. During the spring months it was the biggest producing property in the field.

Prior to getting the deep sand production the Rector land produced oil from the Layton or shallower sand, and during the last months of 1913 this amounted to about \$15,000 a month.

When the deal was made last spring whereby the accumulation of royalty was sold to B. B. Jones, it was estimated that the Rector land would yield to its owner anywhere from \$100,000 to \$125,000 in royalty during the succeeding four months, and it was said that the tract would be a big money maker for her for many years to come.

With the recent increase in the price of crude oil, going to 80 cents a barrel from 40 cents within a six weeks' period, and with the federal court decision separating the royalty from that of the producing company, the income of Sarah Rector began again to increase, and for October she received

approximately 18,000 in royalty for her 20,000 barrels, while for April she received 20,000 for 75,000 barrels.

In clearing away their agricultural exhibits from the courthouse, says a dispatch from Normal, Ala., the Negroes of Madison county wound-up one of the most significant agricultural meetings which has ever been held in this section. The meeting was called to order by Prof. P. C. Parks, director of agriculture at the Agricultural and Mechanical college for Negroes at Normal, and agents for the Smith-Lever extension fund in the Tennessee valley.

The courthouse was decorated with the choicest products of the Tennessee valley and the walls were placarded with pointed epigrams which indicate that the Negroes are waking up to the latest ideas in farming. The object of the conference was, "Alabama Must Feed Herself." The audience was made up principally of Negro tenants and land owners, but there was a large number of white people present also. Speeches were made by prominent white landlords, among them Mr. Roe of Triana. From Mr. Roe's address it would appear that the large land owners of the Tennessee valley are anxious to join in any movement which will tend to improve the efficiency and happiness of their tenants.

The meeting was opened by David A. Grayson, chairman of the board of trustees of the Agricultural and Mechanical college at Normal, who in turn introduced Ed Johnston, who in turn presented Congressman B. B. Almon, who delivered the principal address. Congressman Almon spoke at length upon the natural resources of the Tennessee valley and the superior agricultural advantages which it offers. He said that the one-crop system has throttled the South since the Civil war and caused the southern farmers to be borrowers instead of lenders. He said that only 15 per cent of the western farm lands are under mortgage, while 85 per cent of the southern farm lands are under mortgage. Congressman Almon favors a rural credit system with low interest and long term payments. He seems to regard rural credit, crop diversification and intensive farming as the salvation of the South.

Dr. W. H. Mixon, presiding elder of the Huntsville district of the African Methodist Episcopal church, made a very brief and apt response to the address of Congressman Almon in which he urged more friendly relations between the races and paid high tribute to the friendship of the white man for the Negro.

In closing the conference, President Buchanan called attention to the fact that in the Tennessee valley alone are about 17,000 Negro tenants, 1,500 Negro farm owners and about 25,000 Negro boys and girls of school age who must be the future Negro farmers of this valley. This great host of 25,000 Negro farm workers must be taught to improve their own efficiency and the productive power of the soil which they cultivate and be made better satisfied with life upon the farm. To this end he expressed great satisfaction in the fact that Negro tenants and owners had assembled in this conference and discussed in the most encouraging manner the most fundamental problems of rural life, namely, better farming, better religious and educational facilities and better relations between landlords and tenants.

Uncle Isham Griffin, who will be one hundred and five years old next March, was born near Augusta, Ga., and lives now in Chattanooga, Tenn. He was ten years old when Napoleon died. He was born before the telegraph, the telephone, the phonograph, or the motion picture. The aeroplane and the fireless cooker are ninety years younger than Old Isham."

J. D. Clemmer, in the Chattanooga Times, wrote of him:

"Thirty years ago in my teens, I stopped at his cabin and he was then the oldest looking dandy I had ever met. Since then at every election in Benton, except the last one, I have noticed a crowd gathered around him after he had voted the ticket that he always called upon Daniel Lillard for."

"The crowd always had him calling turkeys, imitating the gobbler, and crowing like a rooster. These he did to a finish, even completing the gurgling sounds following their most strenuous efforts. The glass of older or other-kind of drink handed him on such occasions, was too sacred a custom for the law against treating on election days to be thought of by anyone."

There are twice as many people in the United States as in 1880, three times as many as at the outbreak of the Civil war and five times as many as in '49. The increase between 1910 and 1915 is said to have been equal to the entire population at the time of the Revolution.

One baby out of five dies before it is a year old.

Australia yearly produces 225,000 tons of cane sugar.

Not Copied From the Jews.

Undoubtedly our present Thanksgiving day has its prototype in the Plymouth thanksgiving festival of 1621. It has been asserted repeatedly that the Plymouth festival was suggested to the Pilgrims by the Jewish Feast of Ingathering. That is not probable, as the differences between them are more striking than the like-

ness. They were of the same duration, each lasting a week; and in common with all other harvest festivals they had the same intent. But in the

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ness. They were of the same duration, each lasting a week; and in common with all other harvest festivals they had the same intent. But in the

body. No one attempted to influence his vote because everybody knew that he voted the same kind of ticket 'Uncle Dan Lillard' did.

Justice McCoy of the federal Supreme court dismissed an amended bill of complaint filed by H. N. Johnson of Louisiana and other colored men against Secretary McAdoo of the treasury department. The plaintiffs sought to establish a lien for themselves and the descendants of former slaves on all alleged fund of \$65,072,888.99 said to have been collected by internal revenue officers on the cotton picked and prepared for the market through the services of their ancestors, as slaves.

Secretary McAdoo, through United States Attorney Laskey and Assistant United States Attorney Archer, moved to quash the proceeding on the ground that Mr. McAdoo had no personal interest in the fund in question, and that the proceeding was an attempt to sue the United States for property in his possession. If the plaintiffs had any right, the defendant claimed, they had lost it by delaying too long their effort to establish it.

There is more gold in the United States than in any other country in the world. The latest treasury figures show that on August 2 there was \$2,066,399,539 in gold cash and bullion.

The total wealth of the United States, according to the last published figures, is more than one-fourth of the aggregate of all the nations, and it is rapidly increasing, and there is every indication that it will long remain the leading nation, financially, commercially and industrially.

Let us therefore take up the angelic praise (1) "Glory to God in the highest;" highest heavens, highest degree and quality of praise of him who is infinitely wise and loving.

(2) "On earth peace" with God, with man, in the individual heart and among the nations.

Peace of conscience because of sins forgiven, in fact, all blessings, happiness and prosperity because of peace due to victory over sin which is the destroyer of peace.

(3) "Good will toward men," those with whom God is well pleased, and God has good will only toward all men.

He loved sinful Israel and he loves us so that he "gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth need not perish but have everlasting life." Even as the shepherds "found" the Savior (v. 16) so may all men who truly seek him (Hob. 11:6; Luke 19:10).

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course of Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

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LESSON FOR DECEMBER 19

FALL AND CAPTIVITY OF ISRAEL.

LESSON TEXT—II Kings 17:1, 14, 18

GOLDEN TEXT—He that after being reproved hardeneth his neck shall suddenly be destroyed.—Prov. 29:1.

In the sweep of our six years' cycle of study we prefer to consider this lesson first and use the Christmas story (Luke 2:1-20) to illustrate the love of God which Israel (the last ten tribes) so basely outraged ere it passed into oblivion.

I. The Stiff-Necked People, vv. 6-13. The fact (v. 6) of Israel's captivity has always appealed to the interest and the imaginations of men. The cause of the captivity was threefold: (1) They "had sinned" (v. 7). It was not a single offense but a course of action which was performed (a) openly, "walked" (v. 8). For 215 years following Solomon's reign they had been openly idolatrous and trespassed upon God's grace. (b) "Secretly" (v. 9). Hosea's reign was the same as that of his 18 predecessors. Doubtless he was a good diplomat and politician, though his vacillation between Egypt and Assyria brought ruin, but in God's sight the secret acts and practices of the people were open and known (Ps. 139:1-12; Heb. 5:13). Many today do in secret things "that were (are) not right." 2. Clearer line of demarcation between the church and the world is sadly needed. (2) They were consecrated to evil (vv. 10, 11). To cover our sins is not to prosper (Prov. 28:13), but if we confess our sins God's Son will cover them by the forgiveness of his atonement (Ps. 32:1-5; 1 John 1:9). Israel cared not, however, for his forgiveness, despite the fact it was that "brought them up out of the land of Egypt." It is passing strange that Israel should so fully violate the express commands of God (Lev. 26:1; Deut. 26:21; Ex. 20:3-5, etc.). Some claim they did not possess the law, it being of a later date, a self-evidently foolish proposition, but even so, how can men of our time violate so many of the plain precepts of the word of God? Does this prove that the Bible does "not exist"? The answer to this query is a sufficient answer to the destructive critics. Israel "sets up idols" (v. 10) and "burns sacrifices" (v. 11). Deut. 12:31, which things